

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 01223 231319Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-12
EB-08 AID-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 COME-00 /107 W
-----107582 231323Z /50

O R 231307Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5066
INFO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 01223

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, EAID, PDIP, MILI, MASS, PDEV, SO, ET, GW
SUBJECT: ETHIOPIA EXPELLS FRG AMBASSADOR

REFS: (A) ADDIS ABABA 0280 (NOTAL);
(B) 77 BONN 20066 (NOTAL);
(C) BONN 1078 (NOTAL); (D) BONN 080- (NOTAL)

1. ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 22), THE FOREIGN OFFICE CONFIRMED
THAT THE FRG AMBASSADOR TO ETHIOPIA (HANS CHRISTIAN
LANKES) HAD BEEN GIVEN 24 HOURS TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY.
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THE ETHIOPIAN NOTE TO THE FRG EMBASSY IN ADDIS
COMPLAINED OF ALLEGED ONE-SIDED FRG SUPPORT OF SOMALIA
AND ASSERTED THAT LANKES' CONTINUED PRESENCE WAS NO
LONGER CONDUCTIVE TO THE "TRADITIONALLY GOOD BILATERAL
RELATIONS" BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. A SPOKESMAN FOR
THE FOREIGN OFFICE NOTED THE FRG'S SURPRISE AND
ASTONISHMENT AT THE ETHIOPIAN MOVE. ACCORDING TO PRESS

REPORTS, HOWEVER, THE FRG DOES NOT PLAN A RECIPROCAL
EXPULSION OF ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR TO BONN HAILE
GABRIEL DAGNE.

2. LANKES' EXPULSION IS DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTED TO A
WEEKEND INTERVIEW BY MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC
COOPERATION (BMZ) MARIE SCHLEI IN WHICH SHE REVEALED
THAT THE DM 25 MILLION PROVIDED UNDER THE COMMODITY
AID AGREEMENT SIGNED ON JANUARY 17 BETWEEN THE FRG AND
SOMALIA MIGHT BE USED FOR SOMALI WEAPONS PURCHASES.
REPORTEDLY, THIS AGREEMENT DID NOT INCLUDE THE CUSTOMARY
LIST OF APPROVED PURPOSES OR THE USUAL REFERENCE TO THE
JUNE 1975 "PRINCIPLES OF FRG BILATERAL CAPITAL AID"
WHICH PROHIBITS THE USE OF CAPITAL AID GRANTS FOR
WEAPONS PURCHASES. SCHLEI, IN HER INTERVIEW, ALLOWED
THAT THIS WAS SOMEWHAT UNUSUAL BUT NOT UNIQUE.

3. THE DM 25 MILLION GRANT IN QUESTION IS NOT A NEW
AID REQUEST; IT IS PART OF THE DM 48 MILLION CAPITAL
AID PROGRAM FOR 1978 AGREED TO DURING THE VISIT OF
SOMALI VICE PRESIDENT HUSSEIN AFRAH TO BONN IN LATE
NOVEMBER (REF B). THE SIGNATORY, ON BEHALF OF THE FRG,
ON JANUARY 17 WAS THE KREDITANSTALT FUER WIEDERAUFBAU
(KFW), A SEMI-GOVERNMENTAL MECHANISM WHICH THE FRG USES
AS AN OFFICIAL CHANNEL FOR CAPITAL AID FUNDING.

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4. COMMENT: OUR CONTACTS IN THE FOREIGN OFFICE TELL
US THERE IS MORE TO THE LANKES EXPULSION THAN MEETS
THE EYE. WE WILL FOLLOW UP ON THIS LATER TODAY.

THE SCHLEI REFERENCE TO UNTIED AID IS A PERPLEXING ONE,
ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S "GOVERNMENT
DECLARATION" TO THE BUNDESTAG ON JANUARY 19 IN WHICH
SCHMIDT PUBLICLY REITERATED THE FRG'S POLICY OF NON-
INTERVENTION IN THE HORN CONFLICT AND ITS REFUSAL TO
PROVIDE ARMS TO AREAS OF TENSION. WE WILL ALSO BE
FOLLOWING UP WITH BMZ TO LEARN THE DETAILS OF THE KFW-
SOMALI ACCORD.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 23 jan 1978
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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